

COUNTY OF KAUAI  
MACFEA Meeting Minutes  
**REGULAR SESSION**

Board/Committee:	Mayor's Advisory Committee for Equal Access MACFEA	Meeting Date	March 20, 2007		
Location	Mo'ikeha Meeting Room A & B	Time	12:04 p.m.	Adjourned	1:29 p.m.
Present	Members Present: Stan Yates - MACFEA Co-Chair, Larry Littleton - MACFEA Co-Chair, Rita Manriquez – State Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Board, Elena Costales – Consumer, Don Newhouse - Na Kuli Kauai, Alfred Darling - American Red Cross, Kathy English - Hawaii Disability Rights Center, Heather Farmer – National Federation for the Blind, Kaua'i Chapter, El Doi – Kaua'i Developmental Disabilities Council, Rhoda Rojas – Hawaii Center for Independent Living-Kauai				
Excused	Linda-Nuland Ames – Parent & Kaua'i Community Children's Council, Sharry Glass – Disability Awareness Trainer, Kathy English - Hawai'i Disability Rights				
COK Staff	Christina Pilkington – ADA Coordinator, Edie Ignacio – Staff Secretary				
Guests	Bernard Carvalho, Acting Parks & Recreation Director				
Captioner	Pat Graves, Caption First				

SUBJECT	DISCUSSION	ACTION
<b>I. Call to Order</b>	Co-Chair Yates welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 12:04 pm. The members and guests introduced themselves.	
<b>II. Approval of Minutes</b>	AD moved and ED seconded to approve the February 20, 2007 Minutes as circulated. Motion carried.	

<b>III. Old Business</b>	<p><b><u>State Interagency Emergency Plan</u></b></p> <p>The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) website has an updated Interagency Emergency Plan and is open for comments from the community. April 27<sup>th</sup> is the next (and probably the last) meeting from 9:00-11:00 a.m. at the EOC video conference room in Lihue. There has been no specific report regarding Level II shelters which will be designated to provide a greater level of support than Level I shelters.</p> <p>A state Civil Defense representative was on Kaua'i recently inspecting shelters and making recommendations for Level II emergency shelters. Oahu is in the process of identifying Level II shelters to address people who will need greater levels of support.</p>	
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	<p>Hopefully the Kaua'i emergency plan can address securing all identified shelters for people of all ages and abilities to be supported in.</p> <p>At the March Developmental Disability Council Committee meeting on Kauai, Danny Tangan reported it will take an estimated 25 years to get all emergency shelters in the state ready for use and many more shelters are needed.</p> <p><b><u>COK Emergency Plan</u></b></p> <p>There have been no changes made in the COK emergency plan. The ADA Coordinator stated she is still waiting to meet with the Office of Community Assistance and Parks &amp; Recreation to address the Annex "N" portion of the plan.</p> <p><b><u>Accessible Public Information Policy</u></b></p> <p>The MACFEA advised the Administration to develop a policy for public information to be accessible to people who are deaf and hard of hearing. The public information access policy was signed by the Mayor and Mary Daubert, Public Information Officer (PIO), and distributed to all county departments. The policy requires public information to be circulated in both visual (text) and audio formats simultaneously.</p> <p>Christina reported Gary Heu explained the history of the policy to the KCT (Kauai County Team) and suggested additional training for the Fire Department, Police Department and Water Department's public information representatives. He suggested Information Technology (IT) meet with staff to address how to download information onto the web site and further discuss implementing procedures to ensure equal access to public information.</p> <p>Co-Chair Littleton stated he is happy more people understand what effective communication is and acknowledged it takes a lot of effort on everyone's part.</p> <p>Co-Chair Yates stressed no county information shall be disseminated to the public until it can be provided in alternate formats simultaneously. Co-Chair Yates commended the MACFEA for their work on getting the policy implemented.</p>	
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	<p><b><u>May 10, 2007 Kuleana show</u></b></p> <p>The Mayor's Kuleana show will present emergency readiness for people on Kauai. A MACFEA subcommittee will work on the script. This will be a brief introduction for people, of all ages and abilities, to know what to expect during an evacuation and what <b>not</b> to expect at a shelter. Viewers of the broadcast will be referred to emergency preparedness brochures for more information and to people who can assist them with developing a plan.</p>	Co-Chairs Yates and Littleton, Christina and Sharry will meet on March 28, 2007.
IV. New Business	<p><b><u>Lydgate Beach Park camping platforms for accessible camp sites</u></b></p> <p>Christina explained Bernard Carvalho, acting Parks and Recreation Director, is requesting the committee review the current condition of the Kamalani camp grounds at Lydgate Beach Park. She explained the Parks and Recreation Department would like the committee to assist them in meeting ADA compliance in the Park.</p> <p>The County Council and Administration would like to move forward in opening the camp grounds. Controversy surrounds the existing camping platforms designed for people with disabilities. Members reviewed an advisory memo to the Mayor from the MACFEA dated May 18, 2004.</p> <p>The MACFEA had no knowledge of the platforms prior to their construction. The camp area design plans were included in the bike path conceptual plans and went through an initial HRS 103-50 review however they were never returned for a final review after the Facility Access Unit (FAU) at DCAB made their recommendations for compliance with the ADA.</p> <p>At the 2004 MACFEA meeting, the ADA Coordinator recommended the 1999 Guidelines for Outdoor Developed Areas be used to meet program access as directed by the FAU's initial review. The guidelines called for the camping platform surfaces to be firm and stable. The platforms had sand surfaces.</p> <p>Building Division approached the MACFEA appealing to keep the camping platforms as they were; filled with sand. There was much discussion regarding ramps, protective edging around the platforms, surface materials and how the platforms were intended to be used.</p>	

	<p>The committee reached a compromise with Building Division and agreed the sand could remain as a surface if the Recreation Agency would agree to monitor the usage and change the surface if it was not working out for campers with disabilities.</p> <p>The MACFEA also advised the Mayor to have Building Division remove one of the three platforms to provide a choice of camping styles for campers with mobility challenges. Building Division agreed to remove one platform and did so. However, the camp grounds never opened because of additional concerns surrounding the area.</p> <p>There are 31 camping sites and 3 camp sites are designated for campers with disabilities with van accessible parking. However, after three years of non use, the camping platforms appear to be deteriorating. Pictures were circulated showing cracked corners on the transfer edging and protruding side panels which could cause other access concerns. Camping platforms from parks across the nation were also circulated.</p> <p>The ADA Coordinator explained ADAAG requires Title II entities (county) to provide program access. ADAAG does not address camping sites specifically but we (the county) are still obligated to come up with a design that provides program access to people with disabilities. DCAB's FAU and the Federal Access Board recommend Guidelines for Outdoor Developed Areas. The guidelines are not yet adopted but they are used, by many Title II entities, to address elements that are not addressed in the ADAAG.</p> <p>Bernard Carvalho explained to the committee that he is preparing to address 11 questions for the April 18<sup>th</sup> County Council meeting. Mr. Carvalho stressed the camp grounds will not be opened until the 11 questions are addressed and the entire area is in compliance with the ADA. One concern mentioned was the Kamalani Pavilion (recently burned down) adjacent to the camping area. Design plans for the Kamalani Pavilion were not submitted to DCAB for the HRS 103-50 review process and consequently there were many access barriers to remedy after it was constructed. Mr. Carvalho said the <i>Friends of Kamalani and Lydgate Park</i> has agreed to rebuild the camping platforms and the pavilion following the correct steps regarding access reviews. Mr. Carvalho encouraged committee members to be part of the process for opening the camp grounds and specifically to comment on the camping platforms.</p>	
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	<p><b><u>Committee comments:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Eliminate two camping platforms and start over. There is a table, barbeque pit and parking connecting the pad. Individuals can sleep in their cars at camping sites and still use the camping area.</li> <li>2. Remove one platform and make it level with the accessible route around the pad.</li> <li>3. Maintain safety and security to the camper.</li> <li>4. There are additional liability concerns for the county because of the poor construction of the platforms.</li> <li>5. Consider the environment of Hawai'i when bringing the camp site into compliance.</li> <li>6. Open camp sites safely - with security.</li> <li>7. The surface of the platform is crucial for compliance with the guidelines (firm and stable). Maintenance of the surface material needs to be considered.</li> <li>8. Platforms need to be built for drainage during heavy rains.</li> <li>9. Elevated platform pads need to address transfer issues for the person making the transfer onto the surface area.</li> <li>10. Platforms should provide a level surface all around the entire pad surface.</li> <li>11. Can people who use wheelchairs reach around the entire platform to stake a tent without a ramp getting them up onto the platform?</li> <li>12. Surface to comply with the recommended outdoor guidelines.</li> <li>13. The surface must be firm and stable using any materials which are stable.</li> <li>14. Schedule a MACFEA site visit.</li> <li>15. Video tape site visit with volunteer committee members who use wheelchairs.</li> <li>16. Video tent set up during the site visit.</li> <li>17. Take down existing platforms and build from new design.</li> <li>18. Make sure bathrooms are accessible at the camp site.</li> </ol> <p><b><u>ADA Coordinator's comments:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Remove existing camping platforms and redesign at least one platform with materials appropriate for Hawaii's environment (weather), which complies with ADAAG program access requirements and the recommended outdoor developed area guidelines.</li> <li>2. Review the design with the MACFEA members and submit the plans through the DCAB-FAU HRS 103-50 review process prior to building.</li> </ol>	<p>Bernard Carvalho will schedule a three hour excursion to Lydgate Beach Park for the MACFEA members on March 28<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. via the Kaua'i Bus.</p> <p>Written recommendations for the accessible camp sites from the attending committee members should be submitted to Edie by April 5<sup>th</sup> and open for further discussion at the April 17<sup>th</sup> MACFEA meeting.</p>
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	<p><b><u>Report on Transition Plan (TP) Status</u></b></p> <p>The <i>Programs, Policies and Practices Transition Plan</i>, driven by Building Division, include all the county parks and building facilities. There is a possibility ADA Consultant Bruce Clark will be re-hired to assess the access barrier removal projects listed for completion by May 2006.</p> <p>Building Division is not sure how far behind the county is without the assessment but has re-hired an architect, who originally worked on the TP, to complete the project designs. Building Division hopes to be granted a one year extension to complete the TP and DOJ Settlement agreement projects. The <i>Curb Ramp and Sidewalk Transition Plan</i>, driven by Engineering Division, has also asked for an extension. Priority II Curb Ramps are currently out to bid. Christina stated she was not sure about the status of the <i>Bus Stop Transition Plan</i>.</p>	
<b>V. Reports</b>	<p>See DCAB website, <a href="http://www.hawaii.gov/health/DCAB">www.hawaii.gov/health/DCAB</a> for their newsletter. Trainings for the accessible parking volunteer task forces are currently taking place on neighbor islands. Kaua'i Police have not shown an interest in wanting to develop a task force for accessible parking. The administrative rules for communication access have been approved. The rules will include testing for Hawaiian language and include a new pay scale for Interpreters. There are no tests for deaf Interpreters in the state and will be proposed for next year's legislation. The MACFEA member's input is encouraged to update the <b>Key to Resources</b> for Kaua'i.</p>	
<b>VI. Announcements</b>	<p>The new name for the Aloha Council for the Blind is The National Federation for the Blind – Kaua'i Chapter.</p> <p>The March 3<sup>rd</sup> Red Cross event raised approximately \$3,000.</p> <p>Na Kuli Kaua'i Deaf Club's yard sale is on April 14<sup>th</sup>, All Saints Church. April 15<sup>th</sup> is the next meeting.</p> <p>Elena reported she is participating on April 5<sup>th</sup> at the Muscular Dystrophy Association lock up. Monies raised will help the association.</p>	

	<p>Hawaii Center for Independent Living – Kauai reported a Self Advocacy meeting will be on April 27<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am. Guest speaker will be Dawn Pondish, a dietitian. The topic will be on diet and nutrition.</p> <p>The State Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Board will meet on March 23<sup>rd</sup>.</p> <p>The Developmental Disabilities Council reported the ‘Day at the Capitol’ will be March 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Senator and Representatives will provide lunch for 20 Kauai participants.</p> <p>September 6<sup>th</sup> is the Design for All Access Conference on O‘ahu.</p>	
<b>VII. Next Meeting</b>	The next meeting will be on April 17, 2007 at 12 noon.	
<b>VIII. Adjournment</b>	The meeting adjourned at 1:29 pm.	

Respectfully Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_ ( X ) Approved as is  
Edie Ignacio, Secretary

Date: April 11, 2007 ( ) Approved with amendments.